

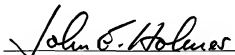
**REMARKS**

After the above amendments, claims 1-3, 5-10 and 12-15 are pending. Claims 1 and 9 are independent. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that former claims 4-7 and 11-14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 9 to include the subject matter of former claims 4 and 11, respectively. Further, Applicants have cancelled claims 4 and 11 and amended claims 8 and 15 to correct typographical errors. Additionally, claims 12-14 have been amended to depend from amended claim 9 instead of canceled claim 11. Still further, Applicants have amended the abstract to conform to the guidelines provided by the Examiner.

Accordingly, it is believed that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 15, 2007

  
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